



GP1621  
#5  
5.4.00

PATENT  
New Attorney Docket No. 6652.0456

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )

Michel GARRAIT et al. )

Serial No.: 09/350,152 )

Group Art Unit: 1621

Filed: July 9, 1999 )

Examiner: Not Assigned

For: PROCESS FOR THE )  
PREPARATION OF )  
HYDROXYMETHYLBUTYRIC )  
ACID )

RECEIVED  
MAY - 2 2000  
TC 1500 MAIL ROOM

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE**  
**STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

A copy of the listed document is attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed document and indicate that it is considered by making the appropriate notation on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are

Serial No. 09/350,152  
Atty. Doc. No. 06652.0456-00

RECEIVED  
MAY 2 2000  
TC 160 MAIL ROOM

material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies this document as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

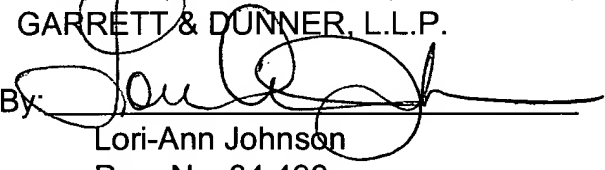
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:

  
Lori-Ann Johnson  
Reg. No. 34,498

Date: May 1, 2000